

REMARKS

The comments of the Applicant below are each preceded by related comments of the Examiner (in small, bold type).

Claims 1-2, 4, and 6-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Iijima et al. (US 20040027510).

Regarding claim 1, Iijima discloses a transreflective liquid crystal display (LCD) device, comprising: a liquid crystal display cell (104) including an active layer; a backlight system (130) for backlighting of said display cell, a partial mirror (120) for reflecting ambient light, provided with apertures (110) for passing light originating from the backlight system, and polarizing means comprising a patterned polarizer (121) between the active layer and the backlight system, said patterned polarizer extending substantially over an area of said apertures in said partial mirror (Fig. 7).

Claim 1

Iijima does not describe and would not have made obvious a patterned polarizer between the active layer and the backlight system, said patterned polarizer extending substantially over an area of said apertures in said partial mirror, “the patterned polarizer being patterned to expose a portion of the partial mirror,” as recited in amended claim 1.

Iijima discloses an example liquid crystal display having a polarizing layer 121 that is continuous and extends across a reflective layer 120 (FIGS. 7 and 8). Iijima states that the polarizing layer 121 is formed by coating a solution of a liquid crystal material on the reflective layer, and then solidifying by drying (paragraph [0023]). Iijima does not disclose or suggest patterning the polarizing layer 121 in the example of FIGS. 7 and 8 to expose a portion of the reflective layer 120.

Iijima discloses another example liquid crystal display having a lower polarizing layer 21 and a reflective layer 20 (FIG. 1). The lower polarizing layer 21 has apertures 21a that is aligned with through holes 20a of the reflective layer 20 (paragraph [0096]). Iijima does not disclose or suggest patterning the polarizing layer 21 in the example of FIG. 1 to expose a portion of the reflective layer 20.

Claim 1 is patentable for at least the above reasons.

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All of the dependent claims are patentable for at least the reasons for which the claims on which they depend are patentable.

Any circumstance in which the applicant has addressed certain comments of the examiner does not mean that the applicant concedes other comments of the examiner. Any circumstance in which the applicant has made arguments for the patentability of some claims does not mean that there are not other good reasons for patentability of those claims and other claims. Any circumstance in which the applicant has amended or canceled a claim does not mean that the applicant concedes any of the examiner's positions with respect to that claim or other claims.

The Petition for Extension of Time fee in the amount of \$130 is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization.

Please apply all charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing Attorney Docket No. 14509-0124US1.

Respectfully submitted,

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